

Old First Presbyterian Church



*Full to
the Brim:
Even the
Stones
Cry Out*

**Palm Sunday
April 10, 2022**

**The Reverend Maggi Henderson, Pastor
The Presbyterian Church (USA)**

Worship Through Praising God

*Please fill out a guest card found in the pew rack and
place it in the offering basket in the narthex when you exit the church building.*

Silence is requested as we prepare our hearts for worship.

** At the asterisk, please rise in body or spirit.*

Prelude	Hosanna from Bible Poems	Jaromír Weinberger (1896-1967)
	<i>The next day the great crowd that had come for the festival heard that Jesus was on his way to Jerusalem. They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting, "Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessed is the king of Israel!" John 12:12</i>	
	Toccata	Gaston Bélier (1863 – 1938)
Welcome and Church Life		
Introit		Andreas Hammerschmidt (c.1611-1675)
	Lift up your heads, ye gates; and be ye lift up, eternal doors; and the King of glory shall come in. Hosanna!	
*Call to Worship		Kurt Schwartzmann
Leader	It is holy to gather.	
People	It is holy to sing.	
Leader	It is holy to be generous, to throw our coats on the road.	
People	It is holy to celebrate justice when we see it.	
Leader	It is holy to shout "Hosanna!"	
People	It is holy to remember.	
Leader	It is holy to gather.	
People	It is holy to sing.	
	Here and now, let us do all of these things.	
*Hymn 197	Hosanna, Loud Hosanna	
1	Hosanna, loud hosanna, the little children sang; through pillared court and temple the joyful anthem rang. To Jesus, who had blessed them, close folded to his breast, the children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.	
2	From Olivet they followed 'mid an exultant crowd, the victor palm branch waving, and chanting clear and loud; the Lord of earth and heaven rode on in lowly state, nor scorned that little children should on his bidding wait.	
3	"Hosanna in the highest!" That ancient song we sing, for Christ is our Redeemer; the Lord of heaven, our King. O may we ever praise him with heart and life and voice and in his blissful presence eternally rejoice.	
Prayer of Confession		Kurt Schwartzmann
	God of street parades and hosannas, we know that you are counting on us to speak out against oppression, to speak up for love, and to speak hope to fear, but so often we are silent. We worry that we'll say the wrong thing, so we don't say anything at all.	

**We worry that we'll offend,
so we keep our convictions to ourselves.
We worry that we'll speak up and won't be heard,
so we stay silent.
We worry that if we speak out
others will turn their anger towards us.
And meanwhile, the parade marches on.**

Silence is kept.

**Unravel our fears.
Spark conviction in us.
Give us the courage to yell, "Hosanna!"
Gratefully we pray. Amen.**

**Assurance of
Forgiveness**

Leader Friends, even when we are silent,
even when we are scared,
even when we miss the moment,
even when we choose to speak and say the wrong thing—
we belong to God.

There is nothing said or unsaid, done or undone that can undo that,
so rest in this Good News:

**People We are forgiven.
We are known.
We belong to God, every day and always!**

Offertory *Ushers will receive the offering at this time.*

Ride On, King Jesus!

African American spiritual, arranged by Robert DeCormier (1922-2017)

AnnieScott Rogers, tenor
Marta Johansen, soprano

Ride on, King Jesus! No one can a-hinder me.
For He is King of Kings, Lord of Lords,
Jesus Christ, the first and last, no one works like Him.
King Jesus rides a milk-white horse.
Oh Lord, the river of Jordan he did cross.
King Jesus rides in the middle of the air.
Oh Lord, He calls the saints from ev'rywhere.
For He is King! He is the Lord

The Peace *Please remain seated for the Peace.*

Leader Peace be with you.

People And also with you.

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

**Time with Our
Children**

**Prayers of the
People**

Chris Burt

Prayer Partners

Andy and Yvonne Cheng, Samuel, Joshua and Annie, Karen Chi, Ted and Betsy Chiao, Buddy Tate Choy and Jeanne Choy Tate, Tracy Clagett

**The Lord's
Prayer**

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.**

Scripture

Luke 19:28-40

Leader

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us,

People

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Henderson

**Affirmation
of Faith**

Paraphrased from and inspired by Luke 19:28-40

Leader

Go to the village ahead of you, and you will find a colt tied there.
Untie it and bring it here. If anyone asks you, say, "The Lord needs it."

People

**We believe in a God of surprises.
We believe in a God with a sense of humor.
We believe that there are things we may never understand,
but we believe that even in the mystery, God is there.**

Leader

They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt, and put Jesus on it.
As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road

People

**We believe in giving what we have.
We believe that actions of generosity change us.
We dare to believe that these small acts can change the world.**

Leader

The whole crowd of disciples began joyfully praising God in loud voices
for all the miracles they had seen.

People

**We believe in a God who is a miracle-maker.
We believe in a God of good news.
We believe this good news is so good that we cannot help but sing.**

Leader

Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus,
"Teacher, rebuke your disciples!"

People

**We believe there will be forces
that try to silence what is just, good, hopeful, and generous.
We do not believe those voices will have the last word.**

Leader

"I tell you," Jesus replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out."
We believe, at the end of the day, love will find a way.

People

**We believe.
Help our unbelief.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

Worship Through Responding to God's Word

***Hymn 198 Ride On! Ride On in Majesty!**

- 1 **Ride on! Ride on in majesty!**
Hark! All the tribes hosanna cry:
thy humble beast pursues its road
with palms and scattered garments strowed.
- 2 **Ride on! Ride on in majesty!**
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
O Christ, thy triumphs now begin
o'er captive death and conquered sin.
- 3 **Ride on! Ride on in majesty!**
The hosts of angels in the sky
look down with sad and wondering eyes
to see the approaching sacrifice.
- 4 **Ride on! Ride on in majesty!**
In lowly pomp ride on to die;
bow thy meek head to mortal pain;
then take, O God, thy power, and reign.

***Charge and
Benediction**

Pastor Henderson

Postlude March Triumphale from Athalie, Op. 74 Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

You may also place your offering in the basket as you leave the church or may make it using the electronic kiosk in the narthex or Old First's on-line giving page found on the right-side of our homepage: www.oldfirst.org.

Are you visiting today? Please fill in the contact tracing binder, if you have not already done so.

Eco-Palms: Sustainability and Fair Trade

By choosing Eco-Palms for Palm Sunday, Old First promotes environmental and social justice:

- Instead of whole palms being cut down for a few fronds, Eco-Palms are “sustainably” harvested to keep the palms alive, thus providing shade and soil stability necessary for a healthy forest.
- Instead of most of the income going to market-traders, Eco-Palms provide gatherers in Guatemala and Mexico’s Yucatan Peninsula with a greater share of the income from “fair trade” palms.

The Eco-Palms program was founded by the University of Minnesota Center for Integrated Natural Resources and Agricultural Management (CINRAM) working together with the Rainforest Alliance TREES program and Smartwood, who certify the palms harvested from the forests of Mexico and Guatemala sustainably. You can learn more by visiting their website: <https://ecopalms.org/index.php>

The Eco-Palms project is endorsed by the Disciples of Christ, the Presbyterian Church (USA), and the Episcopal Church as well as Lutheran and Methodist relief agencies.

Holy Week and Easter 2022

Maundy Thursday, April 14, 7:00 pm

Joint Service at St Luke's Episcopal Church, Van Ness Avenue at Clay Street

Good Friday, April 15, 7:00 pm

Worship with Readings and Reflections

Easter Sunday, April 17

Choral Prelude 10:30 am, Worship 11:00 am

Easter Celebration Coffee Hour Following Worship

Second Sunday of Easter, April 24, 11:00 am

Worship with Hymns and Communion

We are still keeping everyone safe with vaccinations and mask wearing in worship.

One Great Hour of Sharing

On Easter Sunday, April 17, Old First Presbyterian will receive our annual One Great Hour of Sharing special offering. This annual offering enables Presbyterian Disaster Assistance to respond quickly to catastrophic events. Also, if you're "feeding" a fish-box with your loose change, remember to bring that offering with you to worship on Easter Day.

Old First Staffs Interfaith Food Pantry, April 23

Sign up to staff the Interfaith Food Pantry on Saturday, April 23, when Old First staffs the pantry. You can sign up easily by visiting Old First's website – www.oldfirst.org – and then clicking on the link in the sidebar column. For more information, speak with Pastor Maggi.

Remembering Joe Ballard, April 24

After worship on Sunday, April 24, Old First Presbyterian will gather to remember the life of Joe Ballard who died early this year in Florida. Please bring your favorite memories as we honor a man who added such a presence to our community through the years.

New Deacons' Parishes

As new members of the Board of Deacons meet for the first time, they'll be assigning new deacons' parishes. Watch for news about who your new deacon will be.

"Full to the Brim" from A Sanctified Art

The call to worship, confession, assurance, prayer of illumination and affirmation of faith are adapted from prayers by the Reverend Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Image on the Cover

The image on the cover "Even the Stones Cry Out" is by the Reverend Lauren Wright Pittman and was inspired by Luke 19:28-40. The artist says the following:

"When I began this image, I wanted the medium to be the message. Initially I thought I might make a mosaic of stones, however, I was wisely encouraged by my colleagues to try photography and digital collage. I went out into my side yard and picked up rocks to take pictures of them. As I quickly scanned for interesting rocks, I was underwhelmed by what I was seeing. I had already decided that the rocks were going to be dull and boring. My color enthusiast self was annoyed by the prospect of dusty neutral tones and minimal contrast. This was an interesting place to begin my process, considering the text was working with. I was definitely underestimating what the rocks would have to offer the piece, and was preemptively disappointed about the mundane color schemes and textures I would have to work with from my photographs. Gosh, was I wrong.

"As I downloaded the images and began to edit them, a wide spectrum of color came into view. Most of the hues were entirely shocking and unexpected: periwinkle, magenta, turquoise, mauve, rust, orange, gold, and plum, just to name a few. It was as if God was saying to me, "See, even if you turn a blind eye, and your assumptions distract you, the stones will cry out."

"In this piece there are three stones bordered in gold to reference the voice of God, the truth that will not be quelled. Down the sides of the image are the Pharisees or the "silencers" in postures of quieting judgment. My hope was for the silencers to be completely visually enveloped and drowned out by the stones. I left the silencers simplified and unfinished to signify that their attempts at diminishing the truth would ultimately and always be in vain."